GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2987
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2007
DEMONSTRATION AT JANTAR MANTAR
Jai Prakash Shri

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to shift the place of demonstration from `Jantar Mantar`, New Delhi to some other place in the city due to inconvenience faced by the people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a)to(c) : Various organizations, while organizing demonstrations, want to come as close to Parliament House as possible so that they could air their demands to their representatives. To deal with this, Delhi police has issued the instructions whereby it has been, inter-alia, specified that Parliament Street (Jantar Mantar) cannot accommodate more than 5000 persons nor would vehicles be allowed to be brought by the organizers.In case there are large number of vehicles involved and they come with the organizers, the venue should be shifted to Ram Lila Ground where the vehicles can be parked. In case the number of demonstrators is more than 5000 than venue can only be Ram Lila Ground.They cannot go to Jantar Mantar from Ram Lila Ground but the organizers can form a small group of three to four persons who can be taken to Jantar Mantar or VVIP offices for submission of memorandum. If, however, the demonstrators are less than 5000 at Ramlila ground, they can be allowed to go to Jantar Mantar in the form of a procession of 2 to 3 per line, provided, volunteers from the organizers are available at Tolstoy Marg/Barakhamba Road crossing and Tolstoy Marg/Janpath crossing. These volunteers will assist the Traffic police in Traffic Control at the crossings, which should be permitted intermittently by stopping the processionists.

In case the gathering is expected to be upward of 50000 then the number of vehicles accordingly swell up which create major problems for traffic at intersections like Rajghat, ITO, W point, Delhi Gate etc. Any gathering of over 50000 should not be permitted at Ram Lila Ground but should be offered Burari grounds as an alternative.If, however, the organizers select a park or an open area elsewhere in Delhi, the same can be examined on merits.